

america east

# SPREAD RESPECT FORUM



HOSTED BY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT  
OCTOBER 20-21, 2019

# SUNDAY SCHEDULE

## SUGAR MAPLE 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR

- 11:00AM**      **Welcome Remarks**  
Amy Huchthausen & Jeff Schulman
- 11:10-11:50AM**      **Finding Common Language**  
Collin Williams
- 11:50-12:45PM**      **Understanding and Supporting the International Student-Athlete Experience**  
Mindy Reger, Sarah Wells, Edniesha Curry, Ruben Sança, Kate Bergstrom

## MANSFIELD ROOM 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR

- 12:45-1:15PM**      **Lunch**
- 1:15-2:15PM**      **Gender & Sexual Identity and Allyship in Modern-Day Athletics: Learning from Real World Examples**  
Mary Burke, Nevin Caple, Dr. Eric Lueshen

## SUGAR MAPLE 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR

- 2:25-3:25PM**      **Keynote: The Power of Sport to Bring About Positive Social Change and the Role of Athletics**  
Dr. Richard Lapchick
- 3:35-5:30PM**      **Inclusive Leadership: Interactive Workshop**  
Keith Lee & Nancy Kaplan

## MANSFIELD ROOM 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR

- 5:45-6:30PM**      **Dinner**

## SUGAR MAPLE 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR

- 6:30-7:45PM**      **Becoming a Champion of Change: Race, Respect and College Athletics**  
Skyler Nash, Octavia Clarkson, Jacky Mendes, Cathy Rahill, Adam Wood
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# MONDAY SCHEDULE



## SILVER MAPLE 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR

8:00-8:30AM	<b>Breakfast</b>
8:30-8:45AM	<b>Understanding our Communities</b> Reflection Exercise
8:50-10:20AM	<b>The Invisible Athlete: AE Voices x Panel</b> Liz Darger, Dr. Eric Lueshen, Paula Cope, Amy Huchthausen
10:30-11:30AM	<b>Civic Engagement &amp; Communicating Effectively in a Divisive Landscape</b> Eduardo Zerbe, Skyler Nash, Hannah King, Grace Viscito, RISE Voter Registration Partner
11:35-11:55AM	<b>Inclusive Best Practices: College Athletics Playbook</b> The You Can Play Project
12:00-1:30PM	<b>Transforming our Communities: Creating Inclusion Action Plans</b> Institutional Breakouts (Working Lunch)
1:30PM	<b>Closing Remarks</b>

# SPEAKERS



Mary  
Burke



Nevin  
Caple



Octavia  
Clarkson



Paula Lee  
Cope



Edniesha  
Curry



Liz  
Darger



Amy  
Huchthausen



Nancy  
Kaplan



Hannah  
King



Dr. Richard  
Lapchick



Keith  
Lee



Dr. Eric  
Lueshen



Jacky  
Mendes



Skyler  
Nash



Cathy  
Rahill



Mindy  
Reger



Jeff  
Schulman



Ruben  
Sança



Grace  
Viscito



Sarah  
Wells



Collin  
Williams



Adam  
Wood



Eduardo  
Zerbe

# SPEAKER BIOS



## MARY BURKE

Mary Burke is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology and Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies at the University of Vermont. Her primary areas of specialization are in gender, sexualities, and social movements, with an emphasis on LGBTQ social movements and queer politics.

## NEVIN CAPLE

Nevin Caple is a Co-Founder of LGBT Sportsafe. Caple is considered a leading strategic diversity consultant on LGBTQ inclusion in sport. Nevin sits on the Women's Sports Foundation's Advocacy Committee, National Center for Lesbian Rights' National Leadership Council, and is on the faculty of the Alliance of Women Coaches.

## OCTAVIA CLARKSON

Octavia Clarkson is a former track & field student-athlete at the University at Albany. Clarkson is currently a College Assistant for Mastery Charter Schools. Throughout her career, Octavia has sought to advocate for issues that plague communities of color and foster legislative change.

## PAULA LEE COPE

Paula Lee Cope is the President and Founder of Cope & Associates, Inc. Cope has worked as a consultant, trainer, and facilitator specializing in organization development, CEO succession planning, change management, and leadership. She has also taught a number of courses at the University of Vermont's Grossman School of Business.

## EDNIESHA CURRY

Edniesha Curry is an assistant coach for the men's basketball team at the University of Maine. Curry is the only woman serving as a full-time assistant coach in NCAA Division I men's basketball. She has competed professionally in the WNBA and overseas and has held various coaching and player development positions.

## LIZ DARGER

Liz Darger is the Senior Associate Athletic Director/SWA at BYU. Darger serves as sport administrator for a variety of sports and oversees multiple departments, including student-athlete welfare, gender equity, athletic department diversity and inclusion efforts. She also serves as the campus Title IX liaison.

## AMY HUCHTHAUSEN

Amy Huchthausen is the Commissioner of the America East Conference. Under her leadership, the conference has become a pioneer in diversity and inclusion work by forming trailblazing partnerships with the You Can Play Project, LGBT SportSafe and RISE. With the creation of the Spread Respect Forum, Huchthausen aims to continue creating conversation and promoting awareness around diversity and inclusion.

### NANCY KAPLAN

Nancy Kaplan is the Director of Membership for the Institute for Sport and Social Justice and Associate Provost at St. John's University. Kaplan has spent time as a workshop facilitator for several anti-bias organizations including the National Consortium for Academics and Sports, the Anti-Defamation League, and the Nassau County Holocaust and Tolerance Center.

### HANNAH KING

Hannah King is a second year at UVM studying Community and International Development. She works with the local community through Neighborhood Planning Assemblies, BTV low-barrier shelter, and politically focused campaign work/campus organizing.

### DR. RICHARD LAPCHICK

Dr. Richard Lapchick is the founder and president of the Institute for Sport and Social Justice. Lapchick is an internationally recognized expert on sports issues and is referenced as "the racial conscience of sport." Throughout his career, Dr. Lapchick has received numerous awards including "A Lifetime Achievement Award for Work in Civil Rights" presented by the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, the NASCAR Diversity Award and the Ralph Bunche International Peace Award. He has also been inducted into the Sport in Society Hall of Fame, the Central Florida Sports Hall of Fame, the Sports Hall of Fame of the Commonwealth Nations and the Multi-Ethnic Sports Hall of Fame.

### KEITH LEE

Keith Lee is the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Institute for Sport and Social Justice. Keith has facilitated, directed and/or produced thousands of personal development workshops for sports organization across the country, including topics of diversity education, conflict resolution, athletic leadership and athletic transition, among others.

### DR. ERIC LUESHEN

Dr. Eric Lueshen is a Co-Founder of LGBT Sportsafe. Lueshen is a frequent motivational speaker on topics such as LGBTQ inclusion, authentic living, anti-bullying, masculinity, mental health, engineering and sports. He is a member of GO! Athletes and contributes to organizations like the Human Rights Campaign, OutSports and the LGBT Sports Foundation.

### JACKY MENDES

Jacky Mendes is an Assistant Coach for the Men's and Women's Track & Field Team at the University of New Hampshire. Mendes is a graduate of the University of New Hampshire and still holds the school record for points scored in the pentathlon at 3485 points.

### SKYLER NASH

Skyler Nash is a men's basketball student-athlete at the University of Vermont. During his time at Vermont, he has focused his efforts on achieving equity and inclusion among all communities of people throughout the University of Vermont and the state.

**CATHY RAHILL**

Cathy Rahill is the Associate Athletic Director for Student-Athlete Development/Academic Affairs and Senior Woman Administrator at the University of Vermont. Rahill is also a licensed clinical social worker and drug and alcohol counselor. Through a variety of roles, Rahill continues to provide additional support and education for all student-athletes.

**MINDY REGER**

Mindy Reger is the Assistant Director of Academic and Student-Athlete Support Services at New York University. Reger has regularly presented on various topics, including supporting international student-athletes, allyship as a movement, using privilege to support marginalized identities, and the importance of using inclusive language in department publications, programming and communications.

**JEFF SCHULMAN**

Jeff Schulman is the Director of Athletics at the University of Vermont. During his tenure, Schulman has reinforced his advocacy for diversity and inclusion by establishing a framework for inclusive excellence. He continues to promote diversity and inclusion throughout the athletic department, the University and the local community.

**RUBEN SANÇA**

Ruben Sança is a Cape Verdean long-distance runner who specializes in the marathon. He attended and ran for UMass Lowell, after immigrating to Massachusetts at age 12. Sança served for years at his alma mater in the UML Student Affairs office before recently coming over to the Riverhawk athletic department as the Assistant Athletic Director for Administration.

**GRACE VISCITO**

Grace Viscito is a senior and has been involved in a variety of community and statewide organizations during her time at UVM. She is focused on using her platform to engage young people and elevate youth voices.

**SARAH WELLS**

Sarah Wells is a women's basketball student-athlete at the University of Vermont. Wells is an international student from Stanstead, Quebec, Canada and just completed her freshman year. She is currently majoring in nutrition.

**COLLIN WILLIAMS**

Collin Williams is the Director of Leadership and Education for RISE. Williams is an educator, author, and researcher addressing issues of race, gender, and socioeconomic status through the lens of sport. Collin's work has been featured and quoted in over 300 national and local media outlets.

**ADAM WOOD**

Adam Wood is the Senior Director of Partnerships at RISE. Wood is devoted to educating and empowering others through the power of sport. Throughout his career, Adam has sought to ensure others are able to make a positive impact on their own communities through communications and marketing.

**EDUARDO ZERBE**

Eduardo Zerbe is the Director of RISE to Vote, a nonpartisan initiative that partners with teams, conferences, and community groups to improve civic engagement throughout the US. Zerbe has also worked with other non-profits to engage youth on the importance of civic engagement and the policy-making process.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO  
ALL THOSE WHO MADE THIS  
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Ross Initiative in Sports for Equality



Big thanks to our **Spread Respect Forum Planning Committee**: Cathy Rahill, Abbie Day, Adam Wood, Eric Lueshen, Cameron Avery and Elisabeth Redwood!